

NEWS RELEASE

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Township Chairman Bunch speaks at Economic Development Partnership event

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (November 13, 2020) – The Woodlands Township Chairman Gordy Bunch shared accomplishments and plans of the Township on Thursday, November 12, 2020 as the featured speaker of the State of The Woodlands Township Virtual Event hosted by The Woodlands Area Economic Development Partnership (EDP).

Chairman Bunch presented the State of the Township, which highlighted the services provided by the Township along with an overview of programs and amenities for residents and visitors, updates on the local economy and Township finances along with projections for the future. The presentation shared the challenges and the triumphs of a year that has been largely focused on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Despite the impact of COVID-19, The Woodlands Township has been able to weather the pandemic to provide high-quality services to our residents, businesses and visitors," he said. "We are consistently looking at the most efficient ways to be readily accessible for our residents and businesses and their needs."

Chairman Bunch discussed how the Township has remained financially sound during this time while also lowering the tax rate for residents and businesses in the process. "The Board of Directors, past and present, and staff have worked diligently to make sure The Woodlands Township is and always will be financially strong," he said. "It's important for our residents and businesses today and into the future."

Chairman Bunch discussed the process of opening and closing facilities during this time and how the process has resulted in being able to excel in meeting resident and business. The Township can assist residents with their questions whether it's in person, by telephone call or by video call.

Chairman Bunch emphasized the steps the Township is taking to create safe facilities and activities for residents through its facilities, programs and services. One example he pointed out is the free COVID-19 testing site at The Woodlands Township Town Hall, located at 2801 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, Texas 77381.



"This is a very simple and painless test," said Chairman Bunch. "I would encourage each and every person who thinks they might have become exposed to COVID-19 to go by there and take the test. It's free, simple and painless and you get the results within 24 to 48 hours."

For testing information, <u>click here</u>. The latest testing reports from Curative, Inc., can be found here: <u>October 23 - November 9, 2020</u>; <u>November 11, 2020</u>.

Additionally, Chairman Bunch discussed future plans for the Township including hopes to move forward on a Performing Arts Center in 2021 at The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion as economic conditions allow; the diligence in flood mitigation efforts with the Drainage Task Force; work on subsidence and water supply; and determining the future form of governance for The Woodlands.

Following the presentation, Chairman Bunch answered questions from those in attendance regarding traffic patterns, COVID-19 and its effect on local business, and land development, among other concerns. The complete presentation can be viewed online here. The Township video can be viewed here.

The Woodlands Area Economic Development Partnership was established in 1997. Its partners fund its mission to promote job growth and economic vitality in The Woodlands Area by recruiting new businesses and supporting existing businesses in job retention and expansion.

For more information about The Woodlands Township, please visit www.thewoodlandstownship-tx.gov or call 281-210-3800.



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